investigated in detail and certificates were issued for release of foreign raw silk through the Central Silk Board.

(iv) Sericulture.

General.

1221. With the formation of the New Mysore State, sericultural areas of the former Bombay, Madras and Coorg States were merged with the Old Mysore State and the New State practically holds monopoly in production of raw silk in India. Nearly 80 per cent of the raw silk produced in India is produced in Mysore State..

1222. There was a stock of 87 bales of imported raw silk at the commencement of the year and the entire stock was sold out during the year. Since the Central Silk Board took up the important distribution of foreign silk, no import was made by the Department during the year.

Seasonal Conditions

1223. During the year, the total rain fall in sericultural areas of the State was between 22 to 40 (25 to 33) inches. There was failure of Mungaru rains in all the sericultural areas, particularly in Mysore District where mulberry cultivated as a rainfed crop suffered heavily. Draught conditions continued for a long time and the sericulturists lost practically two crops from April to July 1956. Heavy rains (Hingaru) during October and November 1956, caused heavy damages to the mulberry crop.

Climatic Conditions.

1224. The climatic conditions were unfavourable for the sericultural industry. The maximum room temperature being 90°F. and the minimum being 55°F. The maximum percentage of humidity being 88 per cent and minimum being 30 per cent.

Market Conditions.

1225. The prices of reeling cocoons fluctuated between Rs. 1-12 and Rs. 1-94 per lb. This was due to the low production of cocoons during the first half of the year.

1226. The prices of foreign race seed cocoons ranged between rupees three and eight per lb. except in certain months when the prices went up to Rs. 12. The prices of Mysore race seed cocoons ranged from Rs. 2-37 to Rs. 4-0-0 except during the months of February and March 1957 when the prices went up to rupees eight for a very short period. The prices of filature silk ranged from Rs. 25 to Rs. 37 per lb. while the prices of charka silk fluctuated from Rs. 16 to Rs. 28 per lb.

INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE

Area under Mulberry.

1227. The area under mulberry on 1st November 1956 was increased from 1,30,000 acres to 1,55,000 acres, consequent on the integration of Kollegal, Coorg and Belgaum sericultural areas with the New Mysore State.

Government Mulberry Gardens.

1228. The area under mulberry in the Government Silk Farms was 105 acres and 13 guntas (57 acres and 29 guntas) including integrated areas. Mulberry leaves produced were utilised for rearing of silkworms and production of basic seed cocoons.

1229. In Government Farms, 30·38 (27·63) lakhs of foreign race seed cocoons were harvested and used for production of foreign race basic disease-free layings.

Mysore Seed Campaign and Seed Supply.

1230. The entire demand of the seed rearers in regard to the disease-free layings was adequately met from Government Grainages. Silkworm crops were harvested successfully with a maximum yield of 32,750 cocoons per 100 disease-free layings and the average yield being 17,500 cocoons. In spite of unfavourable conditions, the total output of Mysore seed cocoons was increased and the productions was 55·70 (51·00) crores during the year.

1231. Mysore Seed Campaign areas continued to be free from silkworm diseases.

1232. The Mysore Silk Worm Seed (Control of Distribution) Act, 1952, was continued to be in force in the Mysore seed areas during the year.

Assistance to Sericulturists.

1233. The scheme for payment of subsidy to the seed rearers of the area for sinking of wells, for irrigation of mulberry gardens, was implemented during the year and a sum of Rs. 0·12 lakh was paid as subsidy to 43 seed cocoon rearers in Kunigal, Bidadi and Doddaballapur seed areas. And also, 1·16 lakhs of mulberry grafts, 865 seedlings, 52 cart-loads of green mulberry cuttings and 1,050 bamboo chandrikes were supplied free of cost to the sericulturists including Kollegal area.

Foreign Race Seed Campaign.

1234. A quantity of 6·62 (4·2) lakhs of foreign race disease-free layings (including integrated Kollegal area) were prepared and distributed among 665 (625) registered seed rearers during the year. The aggregate out-put of foreign race seed cocoons for the year was 905·55 (630·00) lakhs. The crops were harvested successfully with a

miximum yield of 25,000 cocoons per 100 layings and the average being 15,000 cocoons.

Industrial Seed Supply.

1235. There were 35 Government Grainages and 210 Aided Grainages in the New Mysore State as against 23 Government Grainages and 168 Aided Grainages in the Old Mysore State. The out-put of cross-breed disease-free silkworm layings in Government and Aided Grainages including integrated areas was 301·11 lakhs.

1236. About 40 per cent of the total requirement of the silkworm seed in the State was met by Government and Aided Grainages.

Sericultural Education.

1237. There were six sericultural training centres in the State till 31st October 1956 and on 1st November 1956 the number of training centres was increased to nine with the addition of Kollegal, Coorg and Belgaum. The training centres were, the Central Farms at Channapatna, Sidlaghatta, Kolar, Mysore, Mugur, Mangala, Kollegal, Kudige (Coorg) and Hindalge (Belgaum). A number of candidates both from the Mysore State and other States like Punjab, Madhya Bharat, Assam and Manipur were trained in the above centres.

Propaganda.

1238. The propaganda staff of the Department continued to render assistance to the sericulturists in getting timely supply of examined silkworm layings, guiding the sericulturists in technical aspects to ensure successful harvest of silkworm crops and supervision of the work conducted in Aided Grainages. Intensive propaganda regarding method of planting and maintenance of mulberry grafts was continued.

Sericultural Co-operation.

1239. There were six Sericultural Co-operative Societies in the Old Mysore State till 31st October 1956 and on 1st November 1956, two societies of Belgaum area were added on.

1240. *Work of Filatures in the State.*—There was only one Government Silk Filature, *viz.*, the Government Silk Filatures, Kanakapura, till 30th September 1956. On 1st October 1956, six factories of Messrs. The Mysore Silk Filatures Limited, T. Narasipur were taken over by the Government. With the integration of the Kollegal Taluk, Government Silk Filatures, Kollegal, also came under the control of the Government.

1241. The production of silk in Silk Filatures of the State was as follows :-

Government Filatures :—

	Raw Silk lbs.	*Silk Waste* lbs.
1 Government silk Filatures, Kanakapura	18,734-8	10,032-8
2 Government Silk Filatures, Mysore	24,386	14,921
3 Government Silk Filatures, Kollegal	45,627-15	31,036-14½
Private Filatures :—		
1 Messrs. Mysore Spun Silk Mills Ltd., Channapatna	21,631	15,400
2 Messrs. Kisan Silk Industries Ltd., Mellur	6,892	2,855

1242. The Silk Conditioning and Testing House, Bangalore, was continued to work during the year. The results of tests conducted indicated improvement in the quality of silk regarding winding, cleanness and evenness.

1243. *Work done in National Extension Service Blocks.*—There were 10 Extension Service Blocks in the sericultural areas of the State till 31st October, 1956, and on 1st November 1956 one Block of Coorg area was added on.

1244. The sericultural activities in these Blocks consisted of (*a*) Supply of disease-free layings to sericulturists, (*b*) Supply of Mulberry Grafts, (*c*) Providing Marketing facilities for the produce of the sericulturists, (*d*) Technical guidance on modern methods of silkworm rearing and mulberry cultivation etc.

1245. The area under mulberry cultivation in the 11 Blocks of the State was 33,500 acres and about 15,000 families were engaged in this industry. There were 13 Government Institutions and 61 Aided Institutions in the National Extension Service areas engaged in the production and supply of examined silkworm seed to sericulturists. A total quantity of 24·66 lakhs and 73·46 lakhs of disease-free layings were distributed among the sericulturists of the Block areas by Government and Aided Institutions, respectively, during the year. About 82,000 high yielding mulberry graft plants were supplied to the sericulturists of the area.